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FLOOR DEBATE

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class with 8...if this is adopted, if you will support this, any Class I with 8 percent or more of the affiliated Class III valuations must have the approval of the affected districts before merging or dissolving or reorganizing. There is no state fiscal impact on this. I would point out that this does carry an emergency clause, but I would ask for your support. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the amendment, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, I would simply indicate that I have no objection to the amendment. Obviously, it does not affect Senator Price's or my particular school district, and so whatever the will of the body is, that's fine.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I think Senator Tyson has explained the amendment well, and the situation which is in his area which led to the introduction of the bill. It's I think been an...an important policy component for the state that we have and encourage broad support for public schools. Here you have a situation in which you've had property affiliated with, as it turns out, three different equalized school districts, and, thereby, have been supporting those equalized school districts. As Senator Tyson pointed out, once that Class I district dissolves, without this bill, it would be possible for everyone in that district to abandon the affiliated arrangement they've had, and move to a totally different arrangement or totally different district. Now just maybe coincidentally, one characteristic of that new arrangement, that new district, is that they have a very low property tax levy. There's nothing per se, I guess, wrong with that except that we need to uphold the policy principle that state aid or local support, if you will, of school systems ought to be broad based. I would tell you that there is a state aid impact without this sort of...with or without, there is, this sort of measure. If, in fact, you allow property that's been associated with equalized districts to move to a nonequalized, very low level...or low levy district, what you're doing is providing additional resources to a district that already has